

The CHAIRMAN. I didn't want the record to stand that this was the only difference.

Mr. Macdonald?

Mr. MACDONALD. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Wolfe, I read in today's press that the administration has turned down the railroads' request to be heard—well, not to be heard, but the idea of being heard on being able to ship military goods and things that affect the public safety and health.

From reading about the meeting, I understand that it was held at the Pentagon. I wondered if you were there.

Mr. WOLFE. No, sir; I was not. I was here.

Mr. MACDONALD. You weren't here all day, I don't think.

Mr. WOLFE. I understood that was a morning meeting.

Mr. MACDONALD. Do you know if anyone representing the railroads was there?

Mr. WOLFE. No; I do not. I do have what I think is a press release by Secretary of Transportation Alan Boyd. In the lower part of this page there is a list of people who were there.

Mr. MACDONALD. Does that list, as released by Mr. Boyd, include anybody from the railroads?

Mr. WOLFE. No, sir; it does not.

Mr. MACDONALD. Are you familiar with the telegram that was sent? I don't have a copy before me. I believe it was sent by the railroads to Secretary McNamara on the 28th of April, asking for such a meeting. It suggested the railroads be represented, since obviously they were a party in interest, and also, perhaps, a member or members from this committee and the interested committee in the other body.

Are you familiar with the telegram?

Mr. WOLFE. If you are referring to a Western Union telegram signed by Mr. Fox and Mr. Leighty, Mr. Fox is spokesman for the shopcraft unions and president of the Railway Employees Department, AFL-CIO; and Mr. George Leighty is president of the Railway Labor Executives Association. I am familiar with that Western Union message.

Mr. MACDONALD. That is a very complete answer.

I was wondering if you had any idea why the railroads were not invited. I don't know if perhaps this committee should be invited, but we are handed the ball to settle this dispute. You are a very able negotiator, I know of my own knowledge. I sat with you and members of the brotherhoods when you negotiated a bill which I introduced a year or so ago. I know you are a very good negotiator and have been the chief negotiator for the railroads.

It just strikes me as being very peculiar, indeed, that you or a representative of yours, or at least somebody representing the railroads, was not invited to what I think is a very vital meeting. Don't you find it a little peculiar that you were not invited?

Mr. WOLFE. Mr. Congressman, I think I would be presumptuous to either speak in favor of what transpired or to be critical, because I don't know. I would be singing entirely without my music, and I am not a good singer to start with.

Mr. MACDONALD. What I am trying to establish for the record, and I believe I know the answer but I am waiting for you to say it, was the fact that you were not invited. Were you?